

Main Street Area Survey
(Jacob M. Ruff House)
21 North Main Street
Lexington (independent city)
Virginia

HABS No. VA-897-C

HABS
VA,
82-LEX,
11-

PHOTOGRAPH

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

HABS
VA
82-LEX,
11-

ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE Virginia	COUNTY	TOWN OR VICINITY Lexington (independent city)
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) Jacob M. Ruff House (recorded as part of the Main Street Area Survey)		HABS NO. VA-897-C
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) 21 North Main Street		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) ca 1829	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE)	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) Integral part of Lexington's historic Main Street. Served as living space for the John Ruff family and as a showroom for the hats produced in the family's hat factory next door. In 1850, the house was deeded to John's son Jacob M. Ruff.		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE)		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Brick		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) 2 stories plus basement; rectangular; gable roof		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE Original entrance has fanlight; cantilevered brick chimney flue on north facade		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) Large stone fireplace in basement		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES Restored for adaptive reuse circa 1974.		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE As of 1977, restored and adapted for use as a real estate office		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) Lyle, Royster, Jr. and Simpson, Pamela. <u>The Architecture of Historic Lexington</u> . 1977.		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Druscilla J. Null, HABS		DATE 8/18/83